

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
Executive Office of Mayor Muriel Bowser



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

**MAYOR'S THRIVE BY FIVE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

May 26, 2021

Webex

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Coordinating Council Members**

**DC Agency Representatives**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Designation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Designee</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Dr. Faith Gibson Hubbard	Thrive by Five Coordinating Council	present		
Ellen Riordan	District of Columbia Public Library	present		
Rayna Smith	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services	not present	Jessica Smith	present
Carlie Fisherow	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education	present		
Dr. Erica McClaskey	DC Health	not present		
Michelle Walker-Davis	Public Charter School Board	present		
Dr. Cheryl Ohlson	DC Public Schools	present		
Brenda Donald	Child and Family Services Agency	not present	Rachel Joseph	present
Dr. Barbara Bazron	Department of Behavioral Health	not present	Barbara Paulson	present
Theresa Early	Department of Human Services	present		
Vanessa Weatherington	Department of Employment Services	not present		
Shana Young	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	not present		

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**Public Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Designation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Yael Meirovich	Community Member Ward 1	not present
Michelle Parrish	Community Member Ward 5	present
Ramin Taheri	Community Member Ward 6	not present
LaJoy Johnson-Law	Community Member Ward 8	present
Sara Mead	State Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council	present
Brenda Rhodes Miller	DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy	not present
Kimberly Perry	DC Action for Children	not present
Ruqiyyah Anbar-Shaheen	Home Visiting Council	present
Dominique Spencer	Jubilee Jumpstart	present
Dr. Marla Dean	Bright Beginnings	present
Dr. Lenore Jarvis	DC Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics	not present
Dr. Dea Sloan	DC Academy of Family Physicians	present
(unfilled)	American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 2	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 3	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 4	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 7	

**Other Attendees:** Jane Anderson (DCPS), LaToya Barham (Howard), D. Creek (HSCSN), Miguel Espinoza (HSCSN), Catina Hancock (HSCSN), Natasha Herring (DPR), Drew Hubbard (DHCD), Ameenah Rashid Jackson (HSCSN), Lorenzo Nicholson (Children's National), Michelle Price (OSSE), Colleen Sonosky (DHCF), Tiffany Wilson (Thrive by Five DC)



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## Agenda

### 1. **Call to Order** **Council Chair**

- Chair Dr. Faith Gibson Hubbard (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.
- Chair asked for folks to introduce themselves to the group by sharing their name and affiliation in the chat.
- Chair shared the agenda for the meeting.

### 2. **Reflections from February Meeting** **Council Chair**

- Chair provided a summary of our February 17<sup>th</sup> meeting, with no additional points of discussion needing to be raised.

### 3. **Thrive by Five's Upcoming Work** **Council Chair**

- Chair shared updates on the office's work including: the DC Safe Sleep Education and Outreach Project, 2021 National Maternal & Infant Health Summit, and Flip the Script.
  - The DC Safe Sleep Education and Outreach Project will provide a series of focused sleep-related events to decrease the number of sleep-related deaths occurring in the District of Columbia. Information about the project is available on the Thrive by Five's website.
  - Thrive by Five is hosting two virtual focus groups to help gain a comprehensive understanding of feelings, thoughts, behaviors, and actions of District residents as it relates to safe sleep environments.
  - Next month, Thrive by Five will open the District-wide safe sleep survey to identify gaps, barriers, and/or needs to ensuring safe sleep environments.
  - The 2021 National Maternal and Infant Health Summit will be September 15<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup>. The event will be smaller compared to years past and still accessible virtually.
  - The call for breakout session proposals will go live Tuesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Information will be available at [dcmaternalhealth.com](https://dcmaternalhealth.com).
  - In recognition of National Teen Pregnancy Prevention month, Thrive by Five and DC NEXT will host a virtual panel discussion with young parents in the District as they share their experiences. The virtual event will take place Thursday, May 27<sup>th</sup> at 3pm.

### 4. **Discussion: District-wide Investments** **Council Members**

- The Chair moved to a discussion of District-wide investments now that we are not on a traditional budget track.



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

- Jessica Smith, Deputy Chief of Staff for DMHHS, shared information on STAY DC. STAY DC is a financial assistance program for DC renters and housing providers looking for support to cover housing and utility expenses and offset the loss of income.
  - Federal requirements for those eligible include proof of identity, income, rent, and need. STAY DC launched last month and over 15,800 applications have been submitted. Ads are currently running at several digital and print outlets, including metro buses.
  - Six community-based organizations are accepting paper applications and assisting residents with filling out applications. SN: Amplify new and existing District programs and initiatives for families and their young children to increase awareness and impact.
- Drew Hubbard, Deputy Director for Operations for DHCD, shared information about Mayor Bowser's \$400 million investment in housing production trust fund. Mayor Bowser's supplemental budget for FY2021 will add \$150 million to the Housing Production Trust Fund (HPTF) for a total one-time investment of \$400 million.
  - The immediate funding will support eight additional affordable housing projects that will produce 462 net new affordable units and preserve another 175 affordable units.
  - The affordable housing infrastructure in the District includes DMPED, DHCD, DHFA, DCHA, DBH, and DHS.
- Sara Mead, Assistant Superintendent of Early Learning for OSSE, shared information about childcare and Strong Start's updates.
  - All of OSSE's updated COVID-19 guidance is posted in a centralized location on OSSE DEL's website.
  - OSSE has released a draft of the DC Child Care and Development Fund (CCDF) State Plan for public comment. CCDF is a federal program that provides resources to states to support families and caregivers with low-income to work or pursue education and training. The public comment period will close Tuesday, June 1.

## 5. Other Member Updates

## Council Members

- Anderson (DCPS) shared information about Early Stages and provide updates on their operating status. Early Stages continues to hold all eligibility and IEP meetings and Strong Start transition meetings remotely.
- Herring (DPR) shared information about DPR's in-person camp opportunities. DPR outdoor pools open at full capacity Saturday, May 29. Grab and go meals are also available to all DC students 18 and under at over 17 locations with no ID or

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application needed Monday-Friday from 10AM-2PM. For more information, visit [dcyouthmealsprogram.splashthat.com](http://dcyouthmealsprogram.splashthat.com)

**6. Additional Comments & Next Steps**

**Council Members**

- Chair reminded members that meeting materials are available via OneDrive.

**7. Adjournment**

**Council Chair**

- Meeting adjourned at 4:25 pm.

Any comments regarding these meeting minutes may be sent to Tiffany Wilson at [tiffany.wilson@dc.gov](mailto:tiffany.wilson@dc.gov).